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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(A. MATHIESON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)

AND OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

(J. FINERON, F.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.)

for the year 1943.

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REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1943.

The report for the past year has been compiled in accordance with the instructions in the special circular issued by the Ministry of Health, and is concerned principally with vital statistics.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1943.

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population mid 1943	19·2
Still Births—	
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	16
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	14
Deaths from Puerperal causes—	
From Puerperal Sepsis	0
From other Puerperal causes	0
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age—	
All infants per 1,000 live births	66
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	48
Illegitimate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	250
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	20
,, Measles (all ages)	0
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
,, Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	0

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following is an analysis of notified cases of infectious disease under different age groups :—

Age	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Ophthalmia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Para Typhoid Fever	Pneumonia	Poliomyelitis	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis
Under 1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
1— 2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
2— 3	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
3— 4	4	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
4— 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	12	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	2	4	...	...	...	2	...	...
15—20	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
20—35	3	5	...	5	...	1	...	...
35—45	1	1	...	2	...	2	...	...
45—65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Over 65	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Total	27	15	1	8	...	10	...	...

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

235 children under 5 years of age and 121 between the ages of 5 and 15 were immunised against diphtheria during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease during the year 1943 are set out in the following table :—

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
5—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—	1	4	...	...	...	1	...	...
25—	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35—	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
45—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Totals ...	1	5	...	1	2	2	...	...

A. MATHIESON,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT

OF

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1943.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CITY.

During the year under review there has been no appreciable change in the services previously dealt with under this heading. Samples of drinking water which were taken for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination were reported to be quite satisfactory. The majority of houses in the City have a piped water supply, though there are still some cottages on the outskirts where the supply is from wells. The reconstruction of the sewage disposal works is still in abeyance as a result of war conditions. During the year the media in one filter bed was partially renewed and the City Engineer has stated that this adjustment has been marked by an appreciable improvement in the final effluent.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following table shows the number and nature of inspections made during the year :—

Inspections under the Public Health Acts	210
Inspections under the Housing Act	14
Inspections under the Shops Acts	60
Re-Inspections	290
Visits to Meat Shops	155
Visits to Markets	42
Visits to Cowsheds	54
Visits to Dairies and Milk Shops	68
Visits to Common Lodging Houses	30
Visits to Bakehouses and Factories	76
Smoke Observations	10

NOTICES.

Particulars regarding notices served are as follows :—

Informal Notices served	65
Statutory Notices served	16
Informal Notices complied with	61
Statutory Notices complied with	14

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

All premises used in connection with the production and distribution of milk are inspected at frequent intervals. One retailer in the City holds a Dealer's Licence in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk and a Pasteuriser's Licence. One retailer with premises outside the City holds a supplementary licence for the sale of Pasteurised Milk. Samples of milk collected in the City are examined at the County Council's laboratory at Stafford. Pasteurised milk is subjected to a test which determines whether or not pasteurisation has been effectively carried out. The results of samples submitted during the year were as follows :—

Samples	Passed	Failed
9 Pasteurised	7	2
4 Tuberculin Tested	4	0
2 Undesignated	0	2

There is no prescribed standard for undesignated milk and samples are regarded as unsatisfactory if they fall below the requirements applicable to Accredited milk.

Meat Supply.

Under present conditions the meat supply to the City is received from the Government slaughter-house at Walsall. The meat shops in the City are inspected at regular intervals, particular attention being paid to the conditions under which food—such as sausage—is manufactured.

Other Foods.

During the year the following articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered to be destroyed :—

Corned Beef ...	108 lbs.	Beans	33 tins
Meat Products...	22 tins	Beetroot ...	1 jar
Luncheon Meat	35 tins	Pickled Cabbage	1 jar
Stewed Steak ...	3 tins	Carrots	20 tins
Sausage ...	47 lbs.	Apples	3 tins
Fish	104 lbs.	Grapefruit ...	15 tins
Pilchards ...	9 tins	Plums	42 tins
Mackerel ...	1 tin	Prunes	6 lbs.
Herrings ...	2 tins	Damsons ...	1 tin
Sardines ...	18 tins	Eggs	360
Salmon ...	8 tins	Golden Syrup ...	4 tins
Crayfish ...	1 tin	Jam	1 tin, 4 jars
Lobster ...	15 tins	Marmalade ...	4 tins, 1 jar
Bacon	52¼ lbs.	Cheese	24 lbs.
Milk	102 tins	Onion Powder ...	36 lbs.
Soup	18 tins	Rice	35 lbs.
Broth	2 tins	Oats	16 lbs.
Peas	19 tins	Vinegar	1 pint

BILLETING.

During the year a considerable amount of time was devoted to administrative work in connection with the Government Evacuation Scheme. There is no Billeting Staff in the City. The work in relation to billeting records has been done by the Junior Clerk in the Health Department.

JOHN FINERON,

Sanitary Inspector.